

By: Bonnen of Galveston

H.B. No. 1754

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to creating a school safety allotment under the foundation school program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 37.108, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1) In a school district's safety and security audit required under Subsection (b), the district must certify that the district used the funds provided to the district through the school safety allotment under Section 42.168 only for the purposes provided by that section.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 42, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 42.168 to read as follows:

Sec. 42.168. SCHOOL SAFETY ALLOTMENT. (a) A school district is entitled to an annual allotment of \$50, or a greater amount provided by appropriation, for each student in average daily attendance.

(b) Funds allocated under this section must be used to improve school safety and security, including costs associated with:

(1) securing school facilities, including:

(A) improvements to school infrastructure;

(B) the use or installation of physical barriers;

and

1 (C) the purchase and maintenance of security
2 cameras or other security equipment;

3 (2) providing security for the district, including:

4 (A) employing school district peace officers,
5 private security officers, and school marshals; and

6 (B) collaborating with local law enforcement
7 agencies, such as entering into a memorandum of understanding for
8 the assignment of school resource officers to schools in the
9 district; and

10 (3) school safety and security training and planning,
11 including:

12 (A) active shooter and emergency response
13 training; and

14 (B) prevention and treatment programs relating
15 to addressing adverse childhood experiences.

16 (c) A school district that is required to take action under
17 Chapter 41 to reduce its wealth per student to the equalized wealth
18 level is entitled to a credit, in the amount of the allotments to
19 which the district is entitled under this section, against the
20 total amount required under Section 41.093 for the district to
21 purchase attendance credits.

22 (d) The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this
23 section.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.